

NC Aeronautics Council Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2009
10:30 A.M.
Raleigh, NC

The July 21, 2009 Aeronautics Council meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Joe Randall at 10:30 a.m. at the Division of Aviation office in Raleigh, NC.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Joe Randall, Vice Chairman
David Barker
Melvin Daniels, Jr.
Henry Isaacson
Carter Keller
M.W. Mullinix, Sr.
Doreen Richter
Jay Wyatt

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Brian Campbell
Tom Comerford
Cress Horne
Steve Zaytoun
Jack Dellinger
Dudley Humphrey
Larry Wagner

AVIATION STAFF PRESENT

Richard Walls, Director of Aviation
Ted Alman
Rick Barkes
Jennifer Fuller
Steve Merritt
Shirley Pearce-Rowley
Nancy Seigler
Dion Viveni
Bobby Walston
Kelly Weeks

NCDOT

Jerry Higgins, Public Information
Guss Tulloss, BOT

GUESTS

Wayne Leary, Retired – Currituck Regional Airport Director

Bill Reese, Lincolnton

Duane Damiani, Manager, Corporate Sales, Honda Aircraft Company,
Greensboro, NC

Fred Tulloss

Vice Chairman Joe Randall called the meeting to order. He welcomed all Council members, staff and guests. To better identify with all attending the meeting, he asked that each stand, give name, position and business or airport location.

Guss Tulloss, Board of Transportation members was recognized and thanked for attending the council meeting. Mr. Tulloss spoke briefly, thanking Director Walls for the invitation to attend. He commended the Division of Aviation of doing so much for the state in the aviation field.

Director Walls provided his brief report stating that he is collectively learning and getting familiar with each of the aviation staff, learning their positions and reaching out to all the airports to meet the airport staff, authorities/ commissioners.

Approval of Minutes

Motion for approval of the minutes was made and seconded. The Council unanimously approved the minutes for the June 16th meeting held in Raleigh at the Division of Aviation office.

Old Business

- **NC BOT (Transit, Rail, Ferry, Aviation Committee & Aviation Sub-Committee Reports**

Director Walls reported to the Council and spoke briefly of a number of regularly scheduled monthly meetings he had attended and is learning and accumulating knowledge from each one.

Rick Barkes reported and provided the Council with an update on the State Budget. At this time there is no state budget in place. The General Assembly is working on the budget issues. The House and Senate is trying to reach an agreement in the near future.

- **Funding Update**

State Funding - Rick Barkes provided his update on the state budget. The state budget has not been passed yet and as of now we are anticipating that our State program will be in the 17 million dollar range.

Federal Funding - Rick stated that we have not received our Block Grant for this year. He is anticipating that the funding will come in the next

month. He is also expecting the funds to be heavily earmarked. We may only have approximately 3 million to spend at our discretion and will be back to the council with recommended cuts/ project recommendations as soon as we know how much funding we will receive.

Reauthorization Update

The House has passed HB 915 which is a 2 year bill that contains some of the following: 3.5 billion for AIP in 2010, of that 175 million for Essential Air Service, 304 million for FAA Operational Budget, 288 million for NextGen, etc.

The senate committee has also recommended a 2 year bill with the following:

4 Billion for AIP in 2010, increasing to 4.1 Billion for 2011, changing the 95/5 Community Air Service Program, 175 million for Essential Air Service, 10 million for the Contract Tower Program, etc.

The bills are in committee now and we will have to wait to see what the final bill comes out as many insiders are predicting that there will be additional continuing resolutions passed prior to a ratified bill being passed.

Both the House and Senate are recommending that by 2013, some form of “user fees” be in place for General Aviation.

- **Small Community Air Service**

Ted Alman provided an update on the Small Community Air Service (SCAS) grant. Stanly County has replaced Wilkes County who dropped out of the program. He expressed his concerns over the state allocation for (Air Service Development) \$350,000. as part of the budget negotiation.

- **Next Generation Air Transportation (NGAT) update**

Steve Merritt provided the Council with an update on the Next Generation Air Transportation (NGAT). He stated all is going well and our partner and focal point on this issue is the Institute for Transportation Research & Education.

The Next Generational Air Transportation System Program is going well. We continue our cooperative agreement with ITRE from North Carolina State University to promote and accelerate the equipage of aircraft in North Carolina with NextGen technologies. Following up on several meetings with the Satellite and Broadcast Services Branch of the FAA, DOA continues making presentations requesting funding for a significant expansion to the full scale implementation program for ADS-B and related technologies. Hopefully funding will be provided in this fiscal year.

We are in touch and talking with the Capstone Office of FAA in Juneau, Alaska to culminate in their loan to NCDOT of equipment to complete the installation of the Civil Air Patrol fleet in North Carolina. As of this date, two CAP aircraft have been installed, and two more are in the installation phase. We are requesting five additional units from the Capstone Program to complete the installation of the CAP fleet. The ADS-B precision position capability was presented to great praise at the Search and Rescue Evaluation in Burlington in May. The Air Force evaluators were very impressed.

The value of exact last known position information was borne out last weekend when the Civil Air Patrol and a group of civil aircraft flew over 75 hours of patrols to find a downed aircraft in the mountains of North Carolina. If the aircraft had been equipped with the current 406MHz technology emergency transmitter, the search time would have been greatly reduced. The difficulty of finding a downed aircraft that does not have an operating locator transmitter was made very clear.

A new seminar series has been initiated called "Taking the Search out of Search and Rescue", which is designed to highlight the value of last known position reporting and the current technology 406MHz transmitter coupled with ADS-B positive aircraft identification.

- **ACE Camps**

Ted Alman reported on the ACE Academy Program for Dave Thomas. Dave was in Elizabeth City at the University working with students attending the last camp of the summer.

The four camp locations for this year were Greensboro, RDU, Charlotte and Elizabeth City State University.

The camps have been very successful this year. The attendance has been far better than last year, which was the first year for the ACE Academy Program. Ted thanked Jerry Higgins, Communications Officer, NCDOT, Public Information office, for preparing of the Press Releases to get the word out to the public about this special aviation program.

The Elizabeth City camp will be held July 20-24 on the university's campus. The ACE Academy will provide middle and high school students the opportunity to learn about aviation careers. The camp is sponsored by the N.C. Department of Transportation, in partnership with the Federal Aviation Administration and Elizabeth City State University.

The middle school academy is \$100.00 and runs from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day. The high school academy is \$200.00. That does not cover cost of the program. NCAA was a sponsor for the program this year. (Questions and answers followed)

New Business

NASAO Meeting – Tucson, Arizona

- Rick Barkes provided an update on the NASAO annual meeting. The meeting will be held in Tucson this year from September 12-15. Director Walls is currently deciding on what level of participation we will have in the event. The meeting will cover a variety of topics. The NASAO business meetings in which the state directors will cover national agenda items both legislative and operational issues that face state aviation departments, the actual conference will have workshops ranging from reauthorization of the AIP bill, Security, Noise and the National Parks, Impact of Wind Farms, State of Essential Air Service, State of Commercial aviation, Impact of ARRA on airports, etc. These workshops will be conducted by industry experts and leading government officials.
- Invitation from Sanford-Lee County Airport to host a Council meeting was shared with the Council and a decision will be decided upon at a later date.

Status of the HondaJet Program

Duane Damiani, Manager, Corporate Sales, Honda Aircraft Company, located in Greensboro, NC gave a presentation on the HondaJet aircraft project.

The August 18th meeting to be held in Raleigh was confirmed.

Adjournment of the July 21st meeting was 11:15 a.m.

Joe Randall, Vice Chairman

Date

Doreen Richter, Secretary

Date